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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Masut, otherwise called Pakura or Heigoel, is a product of the fractioned distillation of crude-oil and is used instead of coal in heating factories. Masute is also mixed with gasoline of low octane content, and this mixture is used for the manufacture of high quality gasoline.

There are about four large ponds in Austria where masut is stored during summer and pumped out in winter to be transported to other places. Except for the pond at Moosbierbaum, these ponds are neither specially equipped nor made with concrete.

2 Masut pond in Ziersdorf:

Ziersdorf is a small town on the Czechoslovak border about 40 kilometers northwest of Vienna and is located on the Vienna-Gmuend railway line. The masut pond is one the ground of an old brick factory where the earth was dug out for the manufacture of bricks. The pond can store about 40,000 tons of masut but is not covered to protect the masut from weather; if the masut if frozen during the winter, then steam boilers from the brick factory are used to defrost it.

3. Masut pond in Ladendorf:

Ladendorf lies on the railway line Vienna-Florisdorf-Mistelbach not far from Mistelbach. The pond is located about 1.5 kilometers from the Ladendorf station. Its original capacity was 35,000-40,000 tons of masut, but in 1951 it was enlarged to a capacity of 50,000-60,000 tons.

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4. Masut pond in Pernhofen:

Pernhofen is a small village near the town Laa on the Thaya near the Czechoslovak border. The masut pond is located on the grounds of the factory formerly used for the manufacture of alcohol. Since 1948 this factory has been under USIA administration. Until 1951 there were 21,000 tons of crude-oil stored in the pond. During 1951 the crude-oil was distributed to Czechoslovakia and Poland, and the pond was emptied. It now stores masut which is delivered mainly from the refinery at Kornneuburg.

5. Masut pond in Moosbierbaum:

Moosbierbaum is an Austrian crude-oil refinery. About 25,000 tons of masut can be stored in the pond which is located on the grounds of the refinery. The pond is made of concrete and serves only as a storing place for masut from the Moosbierbaum refinery.

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